

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-10 SCS-03 SSC-01 /079 W

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R 081530Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2292

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2702

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR CY TU

SUBJECT: SHIFT OF RESPONSIBILITY WITH "TFSC"

1. "TFSC PRESIDENT" DENKTASH HAS SHIFTED RESPONSIBILITIES  
WITHIN CABINET IN FOLLOWING MANNER:

A. MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, ORHAN ZIHNI HAS FORMALLY  
BEEN GIVEN ADDED RESPONSIBILITY OF MINISTER OF INTERIOR  
AND JUSTICE AS WELL AS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MINISTRY OF STATE  
IN CHELIK'S ABSENCE.

B. SIGNING AUTHORITY FOR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' DECISIONS  
TAKEN IN PRESIDENT'S ABSENCE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM VICE  
PRESIDENT OREK TO ZIHNI.

C. RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROPERTY CLAIMS INVOLVING FOREIGN  
INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS, WHICH FORMERLY HANDLED THROUGH  
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (OREK), IS NOW TO BE HANDLED  
THROUGH MINISTRY OF STATE (FOREIGN AFFAIRS). ACCORDING  
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ZIHNI, THIS MOVE WILL FACILITATE DETERMINATION OF FOREIGN-

OWNED PROPERTY AND INTERESTS, AND COORDINATION WITH FOREIGN EMBASSIES, AND EARLY SOLUTION OF OUTSTANDING CASES.

2. COMMENT:

A. NET EFFECT OF THESE ACTIONS IS TO REDUCE ROLE OF HARDLINER OSMAN OREK "TFSC VICE PRESIDENT" AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE UNDER 1960 CONSTITUTION. TRANSFER OF SIGNING AUTHORITY FOR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' DECISIONS STEMMED FROM DENKTASH'S IRRITATION OVER VARIOUS DECISIONS TAKEN BY OREK IN DENKTASH'S ABSENCE. PRIME EXAMPLE IS "SEIZURE" OF US COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN YEROLAKKOS AND KARAVAS IN JULY WHEN DENKTASH WAS IN VIENNA.

B. ZIHNI IS A MODERATE IN DENKTASH'S CAMP, WIDELY RESPECTED, AND NOT WITHOUT POLITICAL AMBITIONS. IN RESPONSE TO A JEST THAT IF HE LEFT THE COUNTRY AGAIN FOR AN EXTENDED TRIP (ZIHNI IS A FY75 IV GRANTEE) HE MIGHT COME BACK TO FIND HIMSELF LOADED WITH TWO OR THREE MINISTRIES AND PERHAPS EVEN THE TFSC PRESIDENCY, ZIHNI RESPONDED THAT "THAT THINGS TAKE TIME, I WANT TO GO SLOWLY."

C. DENKTASH REGIME REMAINS HIGHLY PERSONAL AND CHARACTERIZED BY UNEVEN AND CONFUSING DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE CONSTITUTENT ASSEMBLY, DR. UNEL, IS ACTING PRESIDENT IN DENKTASH'S ABSENCE, BUT MINISTER OF EDUCATION SIGNS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' DECREES IN ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT. SIMILARLY, VICE PRESIDENT (OREK) DOES NOT ASSUME CHARGE AS MIGHT NORMALLY BE EXPECTED. END COMMENT.  
CRAWFORD

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**To:** STATE  
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